

TRINITY COLLEGE

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Student Government Association Trinity College 300 Summit Street Hartford, CT 06106 SGAPresident@trincoll.edu

March 1st, 2021

The Connecticut House of Representatives Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement 800 Main Street Hartford, CT 06103

Dear Committee Members:

I write today in support of House Bill 6374, an act concerning sexual misconduct on college campuses, on behalf of the Trinity College Student Government Association. As committee members are doubtless aware, sexual misconduct is a pernicious issue that has plagued college campuses for years, and we believe this legislation provides common sense proposals that will help curb this major issue.

H.B. 6374 is critical anti-violence legislation that aims to raise awareness of misconduct through campus surveys. Awareness around the issue of sexual violence is so important to its proper consideration by both the institution and the state government. Too often, survivors of sexual assault and misconduct suffer in silence, and we believe this legislation will help in this essential area.

We also are very supportive of the amnesty policies established by the bill. Trinity College has already implemented various medical, good Samaritan, and now COVID-19 centered amnesty policies; we have found great success in all of these. When survivors feel free from disciplinary action, they are far more likely to report sexual misconduct. Additionally, bystanders are far more likely to initiate a complaint or speak with a survivor when they are granted amnesty in good faith prior to engaging in such a process.

We hope that this testimony finds you well, and we again urge you to support committee approval and ultimately final passage of H.B. 6374.

On behalf of the Trinity College SGA Executive Board,

Jack Stone '22